

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINGST 07822 291621Z
ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /062 W
-----031948 300327Z /72

R 291539Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8947

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 7822

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, OEXC, JM, US
SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: US AND JAMAICAN YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS

REF: (A) STATE 276750, (B) STATE 306390

1. SUMMARY: WE LIKE THE IDEA OF THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM. HOWEVER, IF IT IS TO BE EFFECTIVE, THE AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE TO BE SOPHISTICATED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE -- AND WELL BRIEFED IN ADVANCE OF TRAVEL. MOREOVER, THE AMERICAN HOSTS WILL HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM OF AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS, MUCH OF IT PREDICATED ON IGNORANCE AND AIDEOLOGICAL RIGIDITIES. END SUMMARY

2. GIVEN CHARACTER OUR ENHANCED INTERESTS IN JAMAICA, AND IMPORTANT ROLE OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS IN JAMAICA, THE PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL COULD SERVE OUR PURPOSES WELL. IT WILL OFFER US A FRESH OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT TO JAMAICANS, AND IN THIS INSTANCE TO A GROUP WITH WHOM OUR LINKS ARE SOMEWHAT LIMITED, A REITERATION OF OUR HOPES FOR A STABLE, DEVELOPING, DEMOCRATIC JAMAICA WHICH CAN BE A VOICE OF MODERATION BOTH IN THE CARIBBEAN AND IN THE THIRD WORLD. IT SHOULD AT A MINIMUM HELP US IN EXPANDING OUR OWN CONTACTS AND DIALOGUE WITH YOUNGER JAMAICANS.

3. IF THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM IS TO BE EFFECTIVE, HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE CARE MUST BE TAKEN IN THE SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS. THOSE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINGST 07822 291621Z

INVOLVED MUST BE SOPHISTICATED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE. INCREASINGLY, JAMAICANS YOUTHS ENTERTAIN A PICTURE OF THE US WHICH IS NOT MERELY ERRONEOUS BUT IS THE RESULT OF RELATIVELY LENGTHY CONDITIONING. THE US IS PERCEIVED AS IMPERIALISTIC, AND THAT WORD IS INEXTRICABLY LINKED TO CAPITALISM. THE AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS WILL PROBABLY CONFRONT A CONSIDERABLE MEASURE OF IDEOLOGICAL TESTING AND THEY WILL HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO PRESENT ALTERNATIVES TO ENLIGHTEN THEIR

JAMAICAN COUNTERPARTS.

4. AS TO THE JAMAICAN ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH THE PROGRAM WOULD BE DEVELOPED, WE FIND IT HARD TO IDENTIFY ANY NOT ASSOCIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY WHICH ARE PRESENTLY MEANINGFUL. THE AMERICAN VISITORS CAN BE BEST SERVED BY OUR ARRANGING CONTACTS WITH PERSONS IN THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) AND THE OPPOSITION JAMAICA LABOR PARTY (JLP) -- AND THEIR YOUTH AND LABOR WINGS, AS APPROPRIATE. ONE PROBLEM WILL BE ARRANGING A REPRESENTATIVE CROSS-SECTION OF REASONABLY OPEN-MINDED JAMAICAN YOUTH LEADERS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SAME PROGRAM. THE POLARIZATION OF POLITICS HERE HAS, AT THE POLITICAL YOUTH ORGANIZATION LEVEL, REACHED THE POINT WHERE THE PNP'S INCREASINGLY RADICAL YOUTH ORGANIZATION IS VIRTUALLY ALIENATED FROM ITS PARENT PARTY. MOREOVER, THE POLARIZATION HAS CREATED A SITUATION IN WHICH THE YOUTH ARMS OF THE JLP AND THE PNP ARE LITERALLY NOT ON SPEAKING TERMS.

5. THE SECOND STAGE OF THE PROGRAM MAY POSE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS. GIVEN JAMAICA'S DESPERATE FOREIGN EXCHANGE SITUATION, A RETURN VISIT BY YOUNG JAMAICAN LEADERS WILL DOUBTLESS REQUIRE ACYPL FUNDING OF TRAVEL AND SOME FORM OF PER DIEM.

6. TO SUM UP, WE ENDORSE THE PROJECT AND ARE REASONABLY CERTAIN THAT THE GOJ AND THE TWO POLITICAL PARTIES HERE WOULD LIKEWISE -- IF FUNDING PROBLEMS CAN BE OVERCOME.

IRVING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KINGST 07822 291621Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINGST07822
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780002-0681
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977128/aaaaagnm.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f96d9009-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 276750, 78 STATE 306390
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 317867
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCHANGES: US AND JAMAICAN YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS
TAGS: PFOR, OEXC, JM, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f96d9009-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009